United Nations A/63/968–S/2009/516

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
14 September 2009

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-third session
Agenda items 62 and 64

Security Council
Sixty-fourth year

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Promotion and protection of human rights

Letter dated 24 July 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the pleasure, in my capacity as Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, to enclose herewith the Non-Aligned Movement Heads of State and Government Special Declaration on Nelson Mandela Special Day, 18 July, adopted by the Fifteenth Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009 (see annex).

I kindly request that the above-mentioned Declaration be circulated as a document of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 62 and 64, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Maged **Abdelaziz**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative

09-54798 (E) 081009

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 24 July 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Non-Aligned Movement Heads of State and Government Special Declaration on Nelson Mandela International Day, 18 July

The Heads of State and Government recognized the long history of Nelson Mandela's leading role in and support for Africa's struggle for liberation and self-determination and Africa's unity and also his outstanding contribution in the creation of a non-racial, non-sexist and democratic South Africa.

The Heads of State and Government also recognized the principled support of the Non-Aligned Movement, consistent with the founding principles of the Movement, in the struggle against apartheid and the liberation of South Africa.

The Heads of State and Government specially recognized Mr. Mandela's achievements as South Africa's first democratically elected President, as recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize and his establishing the Nelson Mandela Foundation, among others.

The Heads of State and Government further recognized Mr. Mandela's values and his dedication to the service of humanity as a humanitarian in the fields of conflict resolution, race relations, promotion and protection of human rights, reconciliation, gender equality, rights of children and other vulnerable groups as well as the upliftment of poor and underdeveloped communities.

The Heads of State and Government expressed their support for and solidarity with the Nelson Mandela Day International Campaign and called on Non-Aligned Movement member States and peoples to join in the campaign, including by contributing 67 minutes of their time in service of their communities in recognition of Madiba's 67 years' contribution in service of humanity.

The Heads of State and Government endorsed the declaration to observe 18 July, Madiba's birthday, as Nelson Mandela International Day, and requested that a resolution to this effect be adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session.

Sharm El Sheikh, July 2009